(a) whether Govrnment's attention has been drawn to the news report published in the Hindustan Times dated 26th November, 1998 under the caption "Centre plans to set up 20 Sports Schools";

(b) if so, Government's reaction to the observations made therein;

(c) whether functioning of existing schools has been reviewed and found satisfactory;

(d) what are the grounds for selection of sites for these schools;and

(e) The details of action plan finalised for the current year and the Ninth Five Year Plan period, with special reference to Maharashtra and the number and locations finalised for setting up of sports schools?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A scheme for setting up of one sports school in each State/U.T. is presently under formulation. A bill to rbing 'Sports' from the State List to the Concurrent List of the Constitution was introduced in the Rajya Sabha and the matter is being pursued with State Governments.

The news report also refers to certain schemes which are implemented by the Sports Authority of India like National Sports Talent Contest (NTSC) Scheme, Special Area Games Centres, Sports Authority of India Training Centres and Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC) Scheme. These on-going schemes are meant for spotting and nurturing sports talent in the country.

(c) to (e): No sports school has been set up so far by the Department of Education under the proposed Scheme.

Details regarding the location etc. of such schools will be decided after the approval of the Scheme.

Establishment of Central University Campus in Haflong and Diphu Government Colleges

2248. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the grievances of the people for establishment of Central University Campus in Haflong and Diphu Government Colleges under Silcher Central University in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of effective measures being taken or proposed to be taken by Government to set up the same; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) A representation had been received in this Department which was referred to the Assam University for consideration. It is for the Assam University to take further decision in this regard.

(d) Does not arise.

उत्तर प्रदेश के पहाड़ी क्षेत्र में आई॰टी॰आई॰ और पोलिटेक्नीक सेन्टर

2249. श्री राजनाथ सिंह: क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश के पहाड़ी क्षेत्र में आई॰टी॰आई॰ और पोलिटेक्नीक सेन्टरों की संख्या बहुत कम है, यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ख) नौवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान इन जिलों के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में आई॰टी॰आई॰ और पोलिटेक्नीक सेन्टर खोलने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या-क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं; और

(ग) सरकार अल्मोड़ा जिले के बासोट, धंडार खोला तथा क्षेत्रों में कब तक आई॰टी॰आई॰ और पोलिटेक्नीक सेन्टर खोलने का विचार रखती है?